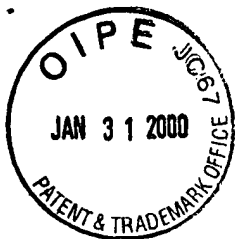


AF/1617



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Response under 37 CFR §1.116
Expedited procedure - Examining Group 1617

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2000

Application of

Applicant : Michael G. Hayek
Serial No. : 09/291,227
Filed : April 13, 1999
Title : LUTEIN-CONTAINING SUPPLEMENT AND PROCESS FOR ENHANCING
IMMUNE RESPONSE IN ANIMALS
Docket : IAM 467 PA
Examiner : D. Faulkner
Art Unit : 1617

Assistant Commissioner for
Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX AF

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is
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on January 24, 2000.

Susan M. Lima
Agent Reg. No. 38,769

7/18/00
BUT
24/00

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed December 3, 1999.
Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested as applicants have amended the claims in an
earnest attempt to put the application in condition for allowance. Specifically, the amendments
address specific suggestions made by the Examiner and are believed to overcome the grounds of
rejection or at least reduce the issues for appeal.

IN THE CLAIMS

2 Please amend claims 1 and 9-12 as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A process for enhancing immune response [and improving the overall health]
of a companion animal comprising a dog or cat, said process comprising the step of feeding said
animal a diet containing from about 1 to about 50 mg/day of lutein for a time sufficient for said
lutein to be absorbed by said animal.

B/SUB
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